

THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES

"The Way of Faith"

In consideration of all that we have studied and learned in the past months regarding the Tabernacle of Moses, I felt it appropriate to review in this closing sharing where we have been thus far.

1) Water From the Rock- We saw the importance of type and how stringently God guarded the setting of type and symbol in his Word. It was for a breach of type that God kept Moses from entering into the Promised Land. We learned of the struck Rock, our Lord crucified who when pierced poured out water from His side (John 19:34-37). We also learned of the spoken-to Rock, our resurrected Lord who pours out the Holy Spirit of God (John 7:37-39, Acts 2:33).

1 Cor 10:3-4

3 They all ate the same spiritual food

4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. (NIV)

2) Plundering the Egyptian- We learned that the wealth of Egypt is supposed to leave with those who are set free from the land of bondage and that it is to be used for the building of His house (Ex. 3:21-22; 25:1-9).

2 Sam 8:11-12

11 King David dedicated these articles to the LORD, as he had done with the silver and gold from all the nations he had subdued:

12 Edom and Moab, the Ammonites and the Philistines, and Amalek. He also dedicated the plunder taken from Hadadezer son of Rehob, king of Zobah. (NIV)

3) Perspectives of Process- We viewed the Tabernacle from various points of view:

- a) Revelation - How God revealed the structure to Moses (God to man, grace).
- b) Manufacture - The order in which the articles were made.
- c) Assembly - How the structure was put up.
- d) Anointing - The order in which each article was consecrated for service.
- e) Entry - Walking into the Tabernacle (man to God, the way of Faith).

4) The Ark of the Covenant- We examined Noah's ark (Gen. 6:18), Moses' ark (Ex 2:1-10) and the Ark of the Covenant. In the ark we had the resting place for the tables of the law (the Word), the manna (bread from heaven), and Aaron's rod that budded (sign of resurrection and high priesthood) all covered by the mercy seat. In the Lord Jesus Christ we have the living word who is the bread from heaven, the resurrected High Priest who's blood has made atonement for our sins.

5) The Table of Shewbread- We learned of its presence, placement, proclamation, prohibition, provision, and perfume. On the pure table sat bread (flesh), wine (blood), and incense (intercession) speaking of the life and ministry of the One who is the Bread of Life.

6) The Golden Lampstand- In the lampstand we saw the perfect illumination of the Holy Spirit of God and Jesus who is the light of the world.

7) The Altar of Incense- We saw Jesus who lives forever to make intercession for us (Heb. 7:25) and that intercession is the central ministry of the body of Christ.

8) The High Priest, the Incense, and the Day of Atonement- We learned that Jesus was sacrifice and High Priest all in one who offers up continually the incense of prayer and intercession for us.

9) God's Framework and Coverings- We examined the structure of the tabernacle proper and saw that its foundation was the redemption silver. We looked at the glory of the gold covered walls and the beautiful tapestries covered over by scarlet cloth, black goats' hair, ram's skin dyed red, and hides of sea cows. The beautiful interior of the Tabernacle was unknown from its outward appearance.

Isa 53:1-3

1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. (NIV)

10) The Brazen Laver- We understood in the laver the truth of the washing water by the Word (Eph. 5:26) and the washing and regeneration of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5). Because it was made of the hand mirrors of the women (Ex. 38:8) we know it was a place of self-examination as well.

11) The Brazen Altar- This was the place of judgment and blood sacrifice. In its services we saw Jesus as **the** sin, guilt, grain, fellowship, and burnt offerings.

12) The Courtyard- We saw in the one gate the truth that there is only one way of entering in unto God. We saw the role of pillars in the church (rightly upholding righteousness).

13) The Camp of the Lord- We saw the orderly camp of Israel, that the Tabernacle was in the midst of it (Num. 2:17) as Jesus is to be in the midst of the church (Matt. 18:20). We studied the order of the march and saw how the Lord (ark) has marched ahead of His church by 2000 years (to date) as the ark traveled ahead of the army by 2000 cubits. We saw that the Lord has a job and place for all His people in His army.

All of this has been viewed primarily from God's perspective, from the ark to the brazen altar, God to man, the way of Grace. I want us to walk through it once more as if we were in the church in the wilderness, altar to ark, man to God, the way of faith.

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| The Altar | - | The Sacrifice |
| The Laver | - | The Cleansing |
| The Door | - | The Truth |
| The Table | - | The Bread (the Lord's body and the Word) |
| The Lampstand | - | The Light of the World, the Holy Spirit |
| The Incense Altar | - | Intercession to God |
| The Vail | - | The Life |
| The Ark | - | The throne of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, the place of sin atonement. |

God has made a way for us to approach him by the Lord Jesus Christ. The throne of judgment has become the throne of grace.

Heb 4:16

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (NIV)

Heb 8:5

They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." (NIV)

The tabernacle was a shadow copy of heavenly realities. It was a movable, temporary dwelling manufactured for the wanderings or sojourning of Israel.

Heb 11:8-10; 13-16

- 8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.
- 9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.
- 10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.
- 13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth.
- 14 People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.
- 15 If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.
- 16 Instead, they were longing for a better country-- a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. (NIV)

It requires faith to sojourn in this world in the tent of this body. God called us out of the Devil's land of bondage (Egypt) and the world system. We are now aliens and foreigners, tabernacling in the tent of this body, looking for the city from God.

1 Pet 2:2-5; 9-12 (NKJ)

- 2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,
- 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.
- 4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,
- 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (NKJ)
- 9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
- 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.
- 11 Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,
- 12 having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

We are sojourners, strangers in a strange land, and should live holy lives for He who called us is holy. Our conversation should be a witness to the indigenous population of earth.

2 Pet 1:13-14

- 13 I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body,
- 14 because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me.(NIV)

Should the Lord tarry (or upon His arrival, whichever comes first!) there will be a time of putting off the tent of this body.

2 Cor 5:1-11a

- 1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
- 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,
- 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked.
- 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.
- 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.
- 6 So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.
- 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.
- 8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.
- 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.
- 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
- 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; (NKJ)

Our living hope is that the tent of this body (the mortal) be clothed upon with our eternal habitation (the spirit, immortality) and in walking by faith, we know the fear of the Lord (not to be found naked).

What the Lord has done with us His creatures, He will do with the creation. The sons of God were chose to show the creation His wisdom and redemption, for that which happens to the creatures will happen with the cosmos.

Eph 3:10-12

10 His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made

known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,

11 according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. (NIV)

It is God's intent to show His wisdom by the church.

Rom 8:18-25

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has?

25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. (NIV)

As we shall put off the shadow-copy tent of our body to the reality of the spirit, so shall the temporality of the physical universe be shaken off to reveal the truth of God's eternal existence. You see, God calls His creation a tent.

Isa 40:21-22

21 Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. (NIV)

Ps 102:25-28

25 In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.

- 26 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded.
- 27 But you remain the same, and your years will never end.
- 28 The children of your servants will live in your presence; their descendants will be established before you." (NIV)

Heb 1:10-12

- 10 He also says, "In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.
- 11 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment.
- 12 You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end." (NIV)

The truth in Psalms quoted in Hebrews is spoken of the Son, as the context clearly shows. He truly is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Isa 34:4

And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree. (KJV)

Rev 6:12-14

- 12 I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red,
- 13 and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind.
- 14 The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. (NIV)

Heb 12:26-29

- 26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens."
- 27 The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken-- that is, created things-- so that what cannot be shaken may remain.
- 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,
- 29 for our "God is a consuming fire." (NIV)

The created things will be shaken to show the eternal things they have rested on all along.

2 Pet 3:10-14

- 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.
- 11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives
- 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. (NIV)

We are responsible for ourselves. Read C. S. Lewis quote from Mere Christianity p. 184. [I cannot at present put my hands on my copy of the book. The reader is referred to the tape for this final point and explanation.]

Isa 33:20-22

20 Look upon Zion, the city of our festivals; your eyes will see Jerusalem, a peaceful abode, a tent that will not be moved; its stakes will never be pulled up, nor any of its ropes broken.

21 There the LORD will be our Mighty One. It will be like a place of broad rivers and streams. No galley with oars will ride them, no mighty ship will sail them.

22 For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; it is he who will save us. (NIV)

Hag 2:3-9

3 'Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?'

4 But now be strong, O Zerubbabel,' declares the LORD. 'Be strong, O Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the LORD, 'and work. For I am with you,' declares the LORD Almighty.

5 'This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.'

6 "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land.

7 I will shake all nations, and the desired of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD Almighty.

8 'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the LORD Almighty.

9 'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the LORD Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the LORD Almighty." (NIV)

Rev 21:1-5, 22-23

1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.

2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

4 "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. (NKJ)